

SPRIT

November
2015

Some Pertinent Information Regarding Indus Today

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And much, much more...



After pulling a bit harder than necessary, a Kindergarten student watches her pumpkin launch from a 'seated' position as she and her crew participate in our eighth annual pumpkin fling.

NOVEMBER EVENTS

Nov. 3	Pumpkin Fling
Nov. 4	Judy Hamel Memorial Stone Dedication
Nov. 4	Take Your Child To Work Day (Grade 9 only)
Nov. 6	Volleyball playoffs
Nov. 10	Remembrance Day Ceremony (10:30)
Nov. 11	Remembrance Day (no school)
Nov. 12	Grade 4/5T Field Trip to study Tipi
Nov. 18	Grade 9 Band Trip to Chestermere High School
Nov. 19	Photo Retakes
Nov. 19	Joint Board / School Council meeting (5:30 Ed. Center, Airdrie)
Nov. 23	Grades 1-6 Skiing at Canada Olympic Park
Nov. 24	Grade 5 & 9 Vaccinations
Nov. 26	Family Literacy & Potluck Supper (6:00—8:00)
Nov. 30	Professional Learning Day (no school for students)

THE FUR TRADE!

In Social Studies, the Grade 2 students began looking at our community in the past. We spent the month of October learning about the First Nations People of the prairies. Students read books, watched videos and were lucky enough to listen to the legends and songs of guest speaker, Randy Bottle, from the Blood Tribe. Students studied real artifacts and asked questions to understand how the aboriginal people survived off the land. Students are now focusing on Canada's Early Settlers and kicked off their research with a trip to Heritage Park. On the field trip, students learned about the remarkable individuals who laid the cornerstones of early Calgary. They discovered how fur trading brought First Nations and Explorers together and visited the Fort. We had an absolute blast, with many laughs in the Great House while eating fresh bannock.

Students are now writing their letters to their Canadian contact and will anxiously wait for their package to return in the mail.



Dane and Sam dressed in Settler clothing in the Livingston House



Dexter and Vaughn locked in prison at the RCMP station.

We are excited to learn about various communities throughout Canada this year. Thank you to all parents who sent in information. We have also started blogging our journey! Parents, please check in on our blog for pictures and student comments at <http://schoolblogs.rockyview.ab.ca/mmckenzie>

GRADE 6 EXAMINES ELECTION

October was an interesting month, as the Grade 6 class studied the "big three" political parties as well as some of the more interesting fringe groups, such as the Pirate Party of Canada, the Marijuana Party and the Rhinoceros Party, all class favorites due to the wacky names. We were delighted to welcome Mr. Andrew Kucy, the Independent candidate, and Mr. Martin Shields, the Conservative candidate, for the riding of Bow River, into our classroom for a question and answer session. The students asked questions such as, "Why should we vote for you?" and "What will you do to help promote agriculture, if you are elected?" Many of the students either accompanied their parents to the advance polls or to Election Day voting stations. We filled in our ballots on Friday, Oct. 16 and

our class results had Mr. Andrew Kucy leading the riding of Bow River, with Mr. Martin Shields coming a close second. Zak was our deputy returning officer, and Claire was our polling clerk. All

students were engaged in learning about the political process in Canada and I feel confident that they understand that voting is both a right and a responsibility in a democratic country. Our future is in good hands.



Martin Shields, now MP for Bow River, addresses Grade 6 and 9 students.

GRADE 7,8,9 OUTDOOR EDUCATION

On October 5th and 6th the Outdoor Education option went on an overnight excursion to Paddy's Flats in the Elbow Valley. It was a fantastic trip, everyone had a great time and learned a lot. One highlight was the shelter building, where students were taught to build their own sleeping structure, from branches, string, and tarps. Hard work and creativity came to the fore as each group designed a unique shelter. Another 'hot' activity was the fire lighting contest where the campers had to use a flint and steel to light a fire, then build their blaze up large enough to burn through a rope



Sweet home Kananaskis!

suspended half a metre off the ground. In addition to the shelters, and fires, students played games and learned about orient-

teering, astronomy, and much more! Way to go, Outdoor Ed. group!

BAND UPDATE



Marley, Claire, and Monty harmonize on their clarinets.

Congratulations to the Junior Band students on your first concert! The Beginner Band Concert showcased what our grade 5 and 6 band students have been working on so far this year. They only know 3 notes, but they are 3 well-pitched notes

with strong breath support and excellent posture. It's great to see the students get more comfortable reading music and performing. This is our biggest Junior Band yet; 33 members strong! They are an enthusiastic bunch who were focused, performed well, and looked spiffy in

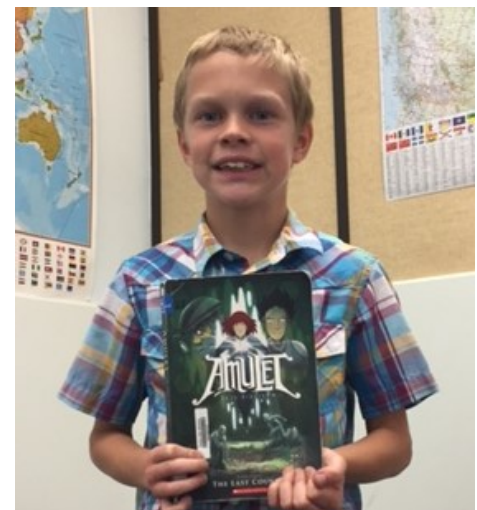
their fanciest white and black. What a proud moment!

Next stop: the Christmas Concert. We'll expand on our knowledge and have some holiday tunes to share on December 17.

4/5M RECOMMENDS REMARKABLE READS

What memorable event happened in our class in October? There was definitely more than one. However, the event that got us excited and motivated was *Book Talks*. With so many good reads out there, how can someone decide what to read next? Listening to your classmates talk enthusiastically about a book makes your selection a little easier. When someone tells you that a series is more addicting than a particular video game, you know you have to check it out. Students can hardly wait to share a favourite that others need to discover. With more and more students

reading each other's recommendations, our class now moans when reading time is over. If you want to see some of our *Hot Picks*, check out the bulletin board outside of our classroom. Every student is holding an amazing read. Of course some readers could not possibly choose only one book. If you have a suggestion for a good read, stop by and become part of our reader board of *Hot Picks*.



Evan recommends:
Amulet, by Kazu Kibushi



WE SCARED HUNGER!

To kick off the year, *Me to We* students committed to our first local action called, WE SCARE HUNGER. Indus students, staff and parents were encouraged to donate food, as well as, 'trick or treat' for nonperishable food items for our local Food Bank. Students were extremely excited to bring in items for their classroom, as we tracked the number of items each class donated on a large graph outside the office. The winners of the Ice Cream Party were Mrs.

McKenzie's Grade 2s, with a total of over 500 items. However, there was some enthusiastic competition in the school as four different classes took the lead each day. Since everyone put forth such an outstanding effort, we would also like to recognize the Grade 1s, 3s, and 9s for their donations. All four classes will be participating in a pajama and movie day on November 12th to celebrate their amazing donations to the food bank. Way to go!

Off the chart and onto the roof! The Grade 2 class poses with the We Scare Hunger classroom contest graph behind them.



JUNIOR HIGH SCIENCE

At the end of our first units this year, each course has a final project they are, or have been, working on. In our Grade 7 Science, the class is completing a large model project. This project has each student creating a model of a chosen ecosystem so they can represent their knowledge of the nature of interactions within the ecosystem. In Grade 8 Science, the students are building model hydraulic/pneumatic devices using the principles of fluids that they have studied this year. Both assignments have a written component that will also be considered a written assignment for Mrs. Olson's ELA class.

The Grade 9 Science class wrapped up biological diversity with another digital simulation, Pocket Frogs. This was used to explore artificial selection and selective breeding in terms of human influenced genetic manipulation.

Pocket Frogs: a digital simulation of biological diversity.

HOW DOES THE GRADE 4/5T's GARDEN GROW?

This month our classroom was working on developing a classroom garden for our plants unit in Science. The students had complete control over all aspects of the garden. As a class the decision was made to grow Swiss chard, chives, wheat berries, dill and peppers.

In addition to observing the exterior of the plants we have now also dissected them to study their innards. Some of the students felt the need to keep a plant or two to take home with them. The students generally agreed that the garden was a success but there were things they could do better. If given the chance again they would give the plants less water, make sure they received more sun, and made better choices regarding the type of plants they decided to grow.



SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

Beginning this January, Rocky View Schools is requesting that parents use our School Cash Online program to pay for their children's Board Established Instruc-



tional Resource Fees, School Established Optional Course Fees, and School Established Optional Program Fees. The primary purpose of our School Cash Online initiative is to minimize the administrative costs associated

with administrative personnel time, paper, and other overhead. Payments made through School Cash Online are more efficient than processing manual payments

because the payment is instantly applied to the selected outstanding fees. The funds are immediately deposited into the school's bank account and receipts and statements are system generated.

We sincerely hope that you will support our initiative to efficiently process fees by utilizing School Cash Online to pay for your child's school fees online. School Cash Online is available anytime online and in numerous languages, offers several payment meth-

ods, provides you with a summary of your current balance and account history, and is certified compliant with the Payment Card Industry (PCI) Data Security Standard (PCI DSS). For more information, I encourage you to access School Cash Online at <https://rockyview.schoolcashonline.com/>.

If you would like to discuss, please call Mrs. Hansen at (403) 936-5855.

KINDERGARTEN CORN MAZE FUN

The Kindergarten class had a TON of fun when we went to the Calgary Corn Maze a few weeks ago! We learned a lot about how pumpkins grow, how to take care of them, and we even got to pick out our very own little pumpkin to take home! One tip that we learned was to not place our Jack-O-Lantern's on cement because that will draw out all of the water which will soon make them rot! Some of the other fun activities we did that day were: the

Rat Rollers (a HUGE hit for most of the kids!), jumping on the bouncy pillows, watching the pig races, sliding down the slides and working our way through the corn maze. It was a beautiful day of fun, learning, and working together in our groups! A BIG thank you goes out to all of our parent volunteers who helped make our first Kindergarten field trip a success!



WHAT ARE YOUR CHILD'S MARKS?

For parents of students in Grades 4 through 9, it is easy to check on your child's progress. Simply set up an account for Parent Portal and you can access up-to-date marks for all your child's classes. You can even see if there are any late or missing assignments. Follow the green and white badge at the top of our school web page or login directly at: <https://ps.rockyview.ab.ca/public/home.html>

WE DO; DO YOU?

Representing Indus School, 16 students attended and participated in Alberta's fourth WE DAY at the Saddledome. WE DAY was more than a one-day event; it launched a yearlong series of actions to better our global community. WE DAY is an initiative of Free the Children, an international charity started by Craig and Marc Kielburger. The two brothers started this youth movement, with hopes that the world could be a better place. Students were educated and will now develop

leadership skills through campaigning and engaging with the world in new ways. They will drive action for global and local change within the Indus community. It is a movement for this generation, a movement of their time. That is the power of WE!

Last year, Indus School raised enough money to send 42 goats to the people in Ecuador. Stay tuned for what we have in store this year!

ULTIMATE AUTUMN WRAP-UP

Congratulations to Indus Ultimate for returning from Edmonton as the Champions for the 3rd year in a row of the province wide Spirit of the North Tournament, Junior High Division. Our Senior Squad swept through the competition undefeated to de-

fend their title. Our Junior Squad came in 6th out of 7 teams following many close games. Codi Tidlund was chosen by the tournament organizers and the Junior High female MVP.

In the Senior High division of the

GREAT READS!



Looking for a good book? Najah recommends several series: **Divergent** by Veronica Roth, **Maximum Ride** by James Patterson, **Percy Jackson** by Rick Riordan, **Harry Potter** by J.K. Rowling, and the **Hunger Games** trilogy by Suzanne

tournament, Chestermere High School, in its first official tournament, came in first place. This team of 10 players consisted of 6 former Indus players!



FIRST STUDENT (BUSSING) NUMBERS

Ride-along (before noon): 403-948-9107

Late Bus Line: 403-250-0016

Questions or Concerns?

403-948-1180

Michael, Shyla, and Braden hustle down the field as the camera catches Gavin's follow-through on the opening huck.



Community Education Service Videogame Use and Abuse

Presented by: Stacey McRae-Arbutnot, Community Health
Prevention Counsellor, Youth Addictions Services, AHS

November 17, 2015
Session: 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Sign in: 6:15 pm
Chestermere Municipal Office
105 Marina Road, Chestermere

Session is
FREE
of charge/
Parking fees
may apply

Register by visiting <http://fcrs.albertahealthservices.ca/ces.php>
For more information email ces@albertahealthservices.ca or call (403) 955-7420.

Learners will develop an awareness
of the popularity, the content,
and the risks and benefits of
videogames and online gaming.

Level I: This session would best meet the needs of families and/or professionals with
little to no knowledge of, or experience, with this topic.

This session is presented by the Community Education Service of the
Child and Adolescent Addictions and Mental Health Portfolio (CAAMHP) of Alberta Health Services in
partnership with Youth Addictions Services & Stepping Stones to Mental Health.

Remember that Indus is a
nut-aware school. Please
be sure that any Hallowe'en
candy coming to school is
nut and peanut free.

SUTP COUPONS & APP

We have sold most of our coupon books and
apps, but you can still get yours! For only \$20 you
receive tons of coupons for things you shop for
every day. If you don't have an order form, just
send your money with a note and you will receive
your coupon book the same day. Books and apps
are available for Calgary, Edmonton, Red Deer,
and Southern Alberta (includes Lethbridge and
Medicine Hat). Thank you for supporting this
important fundraiser.

MONSTER BOOK FAIR!

By the time you read this, we will have completed
another fabulously successful Book Fair. Our goal at
Book Fair is always the same – to get books into the
hands of students. I would like to extend a huge thank
you to all our Indus families who support our Book
Fair. Your purchases mean that the library receives
free books, and all of our students are excited about
that!

What's the buzz in the Library? We are anticipating
the release of the new Wimpy Kid #10 on November
3, and the latest Maximum Ride Graphic Novel #9 on
November 17. Fans of Amulet Graphic Novels will
have to wait until March for the release of #7!

What's popular right now? The 2016 Guinness World
Records (we have 5 copies and they are ALWAYS
checked out!), Icky Sticky Gross Stuff series, Geroni-
mo Stilton, Rainbow Magic, Dork Diaries, skateboard-
ing books, all graphic novels, The Maze Runner and
Divergent series, and the Walking Dead graphic nov-
els (for the older crowd, of course)!



Community Education Service School Refusal: What's Behind It and What Parents Can Do About It

Presenter: Lindsay Hope-Ross, M.Sc., R. Psych., Clinical Lead, Healthy
Minds/Healthy Children Outreach Services, CES Supervisor, AHS

Thursday, November 19, 2015
Session: 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Sign in: 6:15 pm
Mifford School
110 Quigley Dr., Cochrane

Register by visiting <http://fcrs.albertahealthservices.ca/ces.php>
For more information please email ces@ahs.ca or call (403) 955-7420

This presentation will focus on the symptoms and
reasons children and teens exhibit school-refusal
behaviour. We will explore the function school
refusal may serve, and how we, as parents, can
respond appropriately when it happens. The skills
they need to overcome this issue will be
discussed, together with resources parents can
employ to help.

Level I: This session presents an overview of school refusal, and would best meet the needs of families
and/or professionals with little to no knowledge of, or experience with, this topic.

This session is presented by the Community Education Service of the
Child and Adolescent Addictions and Mental Health Portfolio (CAAMHP) of Alberta Health Services in
partnership with Healthy Minds, Healthy Children Outreach Services, Stepping Stones to Mental Health & RYS.

INTERVIEW WITH A COUPLE OF INDUS STUDENTS

Interviewer: *Ms. Hart*

Interviewees: *Jaya and Logan*

I hear there is a new addition to one of the rooms at the north end of the school. What can you tell me about it?

Mrs. Cori bought a fish from the pet store. It's a fighting fish named Shane. His tail and fins are red and his body is blue. He gets more active when you tap on the glass and he gets bigger too. If you put another fighting fish in the bowl, they will fight. You can only have one in the bowl.

What do you need to look after it?

We have to feed him Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. We give him about 3 pellets each time. We gave him rocks, a seashell, a plant and a floating flower. He sits on a high shelf to

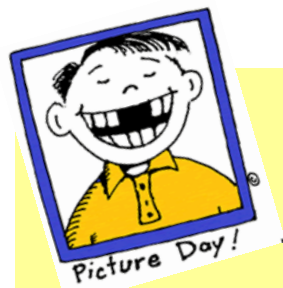
see everything and to stay safe.

What is the most interesting thing about having a fish?

He is interesting to watch. He seems to watch things going

around him.

It is great to have Shane. If we could ever have another pet we would like a rabbit or a guinea pig.



PICTURE RETAKE DAY: November 19

Watch the Fun Picture Day Prep Video from a Kids Perspective

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d88CG9CezhE>



- The envelope your child will bring home from school approximately 10 days after photo day will contain your child's proofs and important order information.
- Your completed photo order must be returned to the school your child attends by the "IMPORTANT ORDER DUE DATE" stamped in red on the order portion of the form.
- Mail LATE ORDERS directly to Lifetouch Canada Inc. or call 1.866.457.8212 to place the order over the phone.

IF YOU REQUIRE A RETAKE, CHECK THE BOX ON THE ORDER FORM, SIGN IT AND HAVE YOUR CHILD RETURN IT TO THE PHOTOGRAPHER ON RETAKE DAY.

Please contact Lifetouch if you have questions regarding proof order forms and picture packages.

Lifetouch Canada Inc. - 1.866.457.8212

HISTORY COMES TO LIFE

It was the perfect day for a *Journey into the Past*. During our field trip to Heritage Park, the Grade 1 students were transported back in time while exploring Canada's largest living history museum. They observed the replicated homes and businesses of our early settlers and closely examined artifacts. We contrasted the daily lives of the Thorpe and Prince pioneer families and the students were especially enthralled with the secret staircase incorporated into the Prince's ele-

gant home. We visited the Weedon schoolhouse, tried out the wooden desks and explored the Wainright Hotel built in 1909. We observed the Strathmore and Bow Valley Standard and saw the typesetting equipment used to produce a newspaper. The Gledhill's Drugstore and the Claresholm General Store are a stark contrast to our modern day pharmacies and shopping malls. We visited the Botsford Harness Shop and Nanton's Livery Stable and

learned that before the time of automobiles, livery stables allowed people to rent out carriages, saddles and horses. When horses were the main form of transportation every small town had a blacksmith and all supplies and grains were transported by rail car. The highlight of the day was our final stop at the Banff Royal North West Mounted Police Barracks. The children were eager to surrender to the metal handcuffs and delighted at being locked up in jail!



FAMILY LITERACY NIGHT

Mark your calendars! From 6:00pm to 8:00pm on Thursday, November 26, Indus School, in conjunction with *Rocky View Reads*, will be hosting a Family Literacy Night. Enjoy a potluck supper while you learn some great ways to help your children by making literacy a bigger part of their lives.

Stay tuned for more information.

JUNIOR HIGH CREATIVE WRITING

Holidays and special events provide unique opportunities for creative writing at any age. In Division 3, students have been working on creating Halloween stories. Story writing lets your creativity run free as you put your ideas onto the page. As you write more frequently, it helps your ideas flow better, making it easier to express yourself. Writing allows you to communicate your thoughts to others in an interesting way and enhances your individualism. It works

on various skill sets and allows you to see what you need to improve on and allows you to build on your strengths. You may not enjoy writing, but it includes many skills that will help you later in life. Keep an eye out for some creative pieces in upcoming news letters.

Please enjoy the brief snapshots below.

~ Marla, Cassidy, & Shyla

**"While I was walking up the path,
I saw something in the window..."**

**"Playdoh... if you
play, it will eat..."**

*"I wanted to be ready for
anything... but sleep was
lurking behind my eyelids, as
I had fought it off for so
long. I gave in and drifted
into slumber."*

**"You made that
much of a big deal
for that?"**

**"The door closed with a swift push and the kids ran as fast as
they could to the emergency exit that led to the roof."**

**"And all at once I was all alone, Mark had disap-
peared into the Haunted Howardson's place."**

**"Their feet made a pitter patter noise on the wooden stairs
and their hands brushed against the 3-d wallpaper."**

*"The trees were tall
and dead and the sun
cast horrific shadows
upon the ground."*

*"I have feared many things
in my life, but nothing has
scared me as much as
Draugr."*

**"Jacoby whispered to
Billy, " Hey man, did you
see that shadow by the
oak tree?""**

**"SECONDS BEFORE THE CRASH, BILLY
NOTICED THAT HE HAD FORGOTTEN
HIS SEATBELT, BUT HIS VALIANT FOE
HAD NOT MADE THE SAME MISTAKE."**

**"... found a note
on their door
that was written
in blood that
read, "LEAVE
NOW!..."**

**"As soon as his head hit the pil-
low, the noise was joined by a
chorus of other ghastly howls that
made the hair on the back of his
neck stand on end."**

**"We woke
up"**

**"John Clyde was a short, chubby boy who lived in
a small house, in a small town in Alberta, Canada."**